B. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

- (Currently Amended) A method of managing invalid password 1. attempts, said method comprising: receiving a message corresponding to a failed login attempt from one of a plurality of computer systems that receives user login requests from a computer system, wherein the message includes a distinguished name, the distinguished name corresponding to a failed login attempt; calculating a total failed login attempt number corresponding to the distinguished name, the total failed login attempt number including the summation of failed login attempts corresponding to the distinguished name that are received from the plurality of computer systems; identifying a failed login attempt allowed number; determining whether the total failed login attempt number is greater than the failed login attempt allowed number; and revoking a password corresponding to the distinguished name based upon determining that the total failed login attempt number is greater than the failed login attempt allowed number on the determination.
- 2. (Canceled)
- 3. (Currently Amended) The method as described in claim 1 further comprising: establishing a secure connection with the computer system that sent the message; and verifying a digital certificate corresponding to the computer system that sent the message, wherein the digital certificate is included in the message.

Docket No. AUS920010988US1 Page 2 of 17
Aschen, et. al. - 09/998,389

- 4. (Original) The method as described in claim 1 wherein the determining further comprises: configuring parameters, wherein the parameters include a login tracking period; storing a record in a failed login data store, the record including the distinguished name and a timestamp corresponding to a time the message was received; and removing one or more records from the failed login data store in response to one or more corresponding timestamps being older than the tracking period.
- of the plurality of computer systems one or more login servers, wherein the login servers include the computer system.
- 6. (Currently Amended) The method as described in claim 5 further comprising: establishing a secure connection to each of the <u>plurality of computer systems legin servers</u>; and including a digital signature identifying a sending computer system in the password revocation message.
- 7. (Original) The method as described in claim 5 wherein the password revocation message is sent in response to determining that the password was not previously revoked; and

Docket No. AUS920010988US1

Page 3 of 17 Aschen, et. al. - 09/998,389

wherein the password revocation message is not sent in response to determining that the password was previously revoked.

8. (Currently Amended) An information handling system comprising:

one or more processors;

a memory accessible by the processors;

one or more nonvolatile storage devices accessible by the processors;

a password managing tool to process invalid password attempts, the password managing tool including:

means for receiving a message corresponding to a failed login attempt from one of a plurality of computer systems that receives user login requests from a computer system, wherein the message includes a distinguished name, the distinguished name corresponding to a failed login attempt; means for calculating a total failed login attempt number corresponding to the distinguished name, the total failed login attempt number including the summation of failed login attempts corresponding to the distinguished name that are received from the plurality of computer systems;

means for identifying a failed login attempt allowed number;

means for determining whether the total failed login attempt number is greater than the failed login attempt allowed number; and

means for revoking a password corresponding to the distinguished name based upon determining that the

Docket No. AUS920010988US1

Page 4 of 17 Aschen, et. al. - 09/998,389

total failed login attempt number is greater than the failed login attempt allowed number en the determination.

- 9. (Canceled)
- 10. (Currently Amended) The information handling system as described in claim 8 further comprising:

 means for establishing a secure connection with the computer system that sent the message; and means for verifying a digital certificate corresponding to the computer system that sent the message, wherein the digital certificate is included in the message.
- 11. (Original) The information handling system as described in claim 8 wherein the determining further comprises:

 means for configuring parameters, wherein the parameters include a login tracking period;

 means for storing a record in a failed login data store, the record including the distinguished name and a timestamp corresponding to a time the message was received; and means for removing one or more records from the failed login data store in response to one or more corresponding timestamps being older than the tracking period.
- 12. (Currently Amended) The information handling system as described in claim 8 wherein the revoking further includes: means for preparing a password revocation message, the password revocation message identifying the distinguished name; and means for sending the password revocation message to each of the plurality of computer systems one or more login

Docket No. AUS920010988US1

Page 5 of 17 Aschen, et. al. - 09/998,389

- servers, wherein the login servers include the computer system.
- 13. (Currently Amended) The information handling system as described in claim 12 further comprising:

 means for establishing a secure connection to each of the plurality of computer systems login servers; and including a digital signature identifying a sending computer system in the password revocation message.
- (Currently Amended) A computer program product stored in a computer operable media for processing invalid password attempts, said computer program product comprising: means for receiving a message corresponding to a failed login attempt from one of a plurality of computer systems that receives user login requests from a computer system, wherein the message includes a distinguished name, the distinguished name corresponding to a failed login attempt; means for calculating a total failed login attempt number corresponding to the distinguished name, the total failed login attempt number including the summation of failed login attempts corresponding to the distinguished name that are received from the plurality of computer systems; means for identifying a failed login attempt allowed number;

means for determining whether the total failed login attempt number is greater than the failed login attempt allowed number: and

means for revoking a password corresponding to the distinguished name based upon determining that the total failed login attempt number is greater than the failed login attempt allowed number on the determination.

Docket No. AUS920010988US1

Page 6 of 17 Aschen, et. al. - 09/998,389

- 15. (Canceled)
- 16. (Currently Amended) The computer program product as described in claim 14 further comprising: means for establishing a secure connection with the computer system that sent the message; and means for verifying a digital certificate corresponding to the computer system that sent the message, wherein the digital certificate is included in the message.
- 17. (Original) The computer program product as described in claim 14 wherein the determining further comprises: means for configuring parameters, wherein the parameters include a login tracking period; means for storing a record in a failed login data store, the record including the distinguished name and a timestamp corresponding to a time the message was received; and means for removing one or more records from the failed login data store in response to one or more corresponding timestamps being older than the tracking period.
- 18. (Currently Amended) The computer program product as described in claim 14 wherein the revoking further includes:

 means for preparing a password revocation message, the password revocation message identifying the distinguished name; and

 means for sending the password revocation message to each of the plurality of computer systems one or more legin servers, wherein the legin servers include the computer system.

Docket No. AUS920010988US1

Page 7 of 17 Aschen, et. al. - 09/998,389

- 19. (Currently Amended) The computer program product as described in claim 18 further comprising:

 means for establishing a secure connection to each of the plurality of computer systems legin servers; and means for including a digital signature identifying a sending computer system in the password revocation message.
- 20. (Original) The computer program product as described in claim 18 wherein the password revocation message is sent in response to determining that the password was not previously revoked; and wherein the password revocation message is not sent in response to determining that the password was previously revoked.